



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
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Enclosure 6c
October 20, 2020

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TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner *A. Infante*

RE: Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021 Revised and Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Submittals

FY 2021 Revised Budget

Due to the COVID pandemic, the Rhode Island General Assembly has not acted on the Governor's Recommended 2021 Budget.

The FY 2021 Revised Budget submitted to the Council for approval, is in essence the Governor's Recommended 2021 Budget.

The amount of the total budget request is \$1,582,652,409, which is \$25,475,317 greater than the 2020 Enacted, including a General Revenue request of \$1,285,907,311. As noted in the budget presentation to the Council, the 2020 Enacted Budget included several one-time anomalies in agency spending patterns and Federal CARES ACT funds, which limits the value of year-over-year budget comparisons.

The 2021 Revised Budget includes nine new positions to support local school districts - high-quality curriculum, professional learning, and early childhood programs.

There is also nearly \$1.6M in funding to support social and emotional learning; \$1M to financially assist school districts with the hiring of mental health professionals; and \$590K for training classroom teachers in behavioral health.

FY 2022 Current Service Level Budget Submission

The Department's FY 2022 Current Service Level (CSL) Budget submission requests a total of \$1,629,584,996, including \$1,347,881,188 in General Revenue expenditures. This budget submission includes all the initiatives requested in the 2021 Revised Budget.

The largest increase is \$56.1M to fully fund the education aid funding formula and the categorical funds for Early Learning, High Cost Special Education, English Language Learners (ELLs), Career and Technical Education, and Transportation. The second largest increase is \$5.2M in teacher retirement.

RECOMMENDATION: That, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approves and transmits the FY 2022 Current Service Level and the FY 2021 Revised Budgets to the Rhode Island State Budget Office. We further approve their transmission to the Rhode Island Board Education, for final approval.